

England v Scotland **MATCH ACTION INSIDE**

match

WEEKLY

**Saturday May 30
1981 30p**



**WORLD
CUP
CRUNCH**

WE PREVIEW
Switzerland v England
Wales v Russia
Sweden v N.Ireland

Paul Mariner
**Exclusive from
Amsterdam**

THE



JOE JORDAN (Man Utd)

JOE Jordan's future at Manchester United may be in the balance, but there's no doubt what the supporters think of him.

They've just voted the Scottish striker their 'Player of the Year'. In a season punctuated by injury Joe made 33 League appearances and scored 15 goals.

England Under-21 international Mike Duxbury was elected United's 'Young Player of the Year'.

Players of the Year

Division One

IPSWICH scooped the national player of the year awards... but who won each club's individual awards?

Who did the supporters club vote as their team's best player during the season?

Match Weekly has compiled a list of the supporters club winners for the First Division.

At the time of going to Press Everton, Man. City, Liverpool, Sunderland and Spurs had not decided their awards while there was more than one winner at Aston Villa and West Brom.

Next week we'll be looking at the Second Division's top players.

MIKE ROBINSON (Brighton)

AFTER being rejected by Manchester City Mike Robinson proved his worth as a First Division striker with 22 goals in his first season for struggling Brighton.

And it earned Mike — Match Weekly's First Division 'Matchman of the Month' for December — the Supporters Club's 'Player of the Year' award.

An ever-present in the Brighton team last season, Mike was presented with a trophy and a colour television set as his prize.



ALAN AINSWORTH (Birmingham)

NO DOUBT about it... Alan Ainsworth is Birmingham City's 'Player of the Year'.

The midfield star was voted 'Blues' top player by three different groups — including the Birmingham Supporters Club.

The former Blackpool player missed just one League game as Birmingham consolidated their place in the First Division.



PAUL COOPER (Ipswich)

JOHN Wark and Frans Thijssen may have won the national player of the year awards, but Ipswich goalkeeper Paul Cooper was the fans' choice.

Paul played an important part in the Suffolk side's quest for honours last season and has made a name for himself as a penalty-saver extraordinaire.



FANS' CHOICE

DANNY THOMAS (Coventry)

IT'S been an incredible first season for Coventry's versatile Danny Thomas.

The 19-year-old made his full League debut, played in two League Cup semi-finals, suffered the humiliation of a sending off and was voted Coventry Supporter's Club 'Player of the Year'.

Danny, who made 23 League appearances last season, started his career as a midfielder player but moved comfortably into the right back spot when club skipper Mick Coop was injured.



PAUL HINSHELWOOD (Palace)

IT was a disastrous season for Crystal Palace, but one bright spot for the relegated Selhurst Park club was the form of their defender Paul Hinshelwood.

And for the second season running the fans have voted him 'Player of the Year'. Paul played 38 games for trouble-torn Palace and scored one goal last season.



PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

Club	Player	This season		Club career	
		League apps.	Goals	League apps.	Goals
Arsenal	Frank Stapleton	40	14	223	75
Birmingham	Alan Ainscow	40	8	104	16
Brighton	Mike Robinson	42	22	42	22
Coventry	Danny Thomas	23	1	23	1
Crystal Palace	Paul Hinshelwood	38	1	209	14
Ipswich	Paul Cooper	38	0	236	0
Leeds	Trevor Cherry	41	0	340	22
Leicester	Mark Wallington	42	0	288	0
Man. Utd.	Joe Jordan	33	15	109	37
Middlesbrough	Jim Platt	40	0	336	0
Norwich	Joe Royle	38	9	38	9
Nott'm Forest	Kenny Burns	29	5	129	12
Southampton	Ivan Golac	41	2	107	4
Stoke	Peter Fox	42	0	66	0
Wolves	Paul Bradshaw	40	0	150	0

JOE ROYLE (Norwich)

NORWICH City's Joe Royle suffered the disappointment of relegation for the second season running, but the experienced striker had the consolation of being voted the club's 'Player of the Year'.

He proved to be a perfect foil for Justin Fashanu and his experience helped the young black striker to finish the season with 22 goals.





GLOOM for
England as
Scotland
make it a . . .

TARTAN

Above: Take that! Ian Walsh (far right) bangs in Wales' opening goal past Alan Rough in the 2-0 defeat of Scotland at Swansea, watched by Burns (4), Flynn, Thomas (10) and Narey (15).

Above right: The moment that made it all worth while for the thousands of Scottish fans who made the trek down to London for the Home International Championship finale between England and Scotland as 'tartan terror' John Robertson strokes the ball home from the penalty spot to give Scotland a 1-0 victory over their arch rivals. The penalty was awarded for a foul by Bryan Robson on Scotland's Steve Archibald.

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Above: England's Steve Coppell surges past Scotland's Frank Gray (14) on route to goal at Wembley on Saturday, but the attack came to nothing as England failed to score for the fourth consecutive match.



TRIUMPH!

Home International Championship

Match Facts

Saturday, May 16

WALES (2) 2 (Walsh 18, 21)
SCOTLAND (0) 0
 Att: 18,985 (At Swansea)
 Wales: Davies 7, Ratcliffe 7, Jones 7 (sub.
 Boyle 5), Price 7, Phillips 7, Nicholas 7,
 Flynn 7, Harris 7, Thomas 7, ★**WALSH 8**
 (Charles 6), James 7.
 Scotland: Rough 5, Burns 6, Stewart 6,
 Gray 6 (sub. McGrain 7), McQueen 6, Miller
 6, Hartford 7, ★**NAREY 8**, Provan 6, Jordan
 5, Graham 5 (sub. Sturrock 5).
 Referee: O. Donnelly (Ireland)
 Match Rating: ★★

Wednesday, May 20

ENGLAND (0) 0
WALES (0) 0
 Att: 34,280 (At Wembley)
 England: Corrigan 6, Anderson 7,
 ★**SANSOM 8**, Robson 6, Watson 7,
 Wilkins 5, Coppell 5, Hoddle 7, Withe 5
 (sub. Woodcock), Rix 6, Barnes 5.
 Wales: Davies 6, Jones 6, Ratcliffe 6,
 Nicholas 6, Phillips 7, Price 6, Harris 6 (sub.
 Giles 6), Flynn 6, Walsh 7, ★**THOMAS 8**,
 James, L 6 (sub. Rush 6).
 Referee: B. R. McGinley (Scotland)
 Match Rating: ★★

COVER PICTURE: Wales striker Ian Walsh (left) and England's Trevor Brooking and Paul Mariner who face vital World Cup clashes this week.

Tuesday, May 19

SCOTLAND (1) 2 (Stewart 5, Archibald 50)
NORTHERN IRELAND (0) 0
 Att: 25,448
 Scotland: Thomson 8, McGrain 8, Gray 6,
 Stewart 7, ★**McLEISH 9**, Miller 8, Hartford
 7, Sturrock 7, Archibald 7, Burns, T 8,
 Robertson 7.
 N. Ireland: Jennings 7, Nicholl, J 6, Nelson
 6 (sub. Donaghy), McLelland 7, Nicholl, C 7,
 ★**O'NEILL, J 8**, Cochrane 6, O'Neill, M 6,
 Armstrong 7, McIlroy 7, Hamilton 7.
 Referee: P. Partridge (Durham)
 Match Rating: ★★

Saturday, May 23

ENGLAND (0) 0
SCOTLAND (0) 1 (Robertson, pen 64)
 Att: 90,000 (Receipts £565,000) At
 Wembley
 England: Corrigan 6, Anderson 6,
 ★**SANSOM 8**, Wilkins 6, Watson 6 (sub.
 Martin 6), Robson 7, Coppell 6, Hoddle 6,
 Withe 6, Rix 5, Woodcock 5 (sub. Francis 5).
 Scotland: Rough 6, Stewart 7, Gray 7,
 McGrain 7, ★**McLEISH 9**, Miller 8, Provan
 6 (sub. Sturrock), Archibald 6, Jordan 5,
 Hartford (sub. Narey 7), Robertson 8.
 Referee: R. Wurtz (France)
 Match Rating: ★★



Above: A worrying time for the Northern Ireland defence as Scotland's Steve Archibald (8) gets a header on target. It was good enough to beat goalkeeper Pat Jennings, but the ball hit the bar and bounced clear.

Win a day with Keegan

HOPE you all received your super Kevin Keegan Action Replay rub-down transfer FREE in last week's issue. Don't forget you can collect all EIGHT goals — they are all available at branches of Woolworth's, Smith's and Menzies — to complete the giant Wall chart. The wall chart is available free if you send 50p plus a token from your Action Replay scene to: Thomas Salter Ltd., Scotland Road, Glenrothes, Fife. There is also a chance to win an action-packed day with Kevin Keegan himself or one of 100 great other soccer prizes. Closing date has been specially extended until October 31, 1981.



Arsenal's Peter Nicholas — on the brink of realising a World Cup dream with Wales.

Wales v Russia A win and we're there

WALES face one of the most important games in their history when they line up against Russia at Wrexham on Saturday.

Midfield player Peter Nicholas believes that a win could send Wales to the World Cup Finals for the first time since 1958.

"If we can win this one it's likely we'll go to Spain," admits the Arsenal star.

"It's been my lifelong ambition to play for my country in the World Cup Finals and to think I'm on the verge of realising that dream is unbelievable," said Peter.

"I haven't seen the Russians play, but I do know they've got some very skilful players.

"Many of their players will come from the Dinamo Tbilisi team and I saw how they dismantled West Ham in the European Cup-Winners Cup last season. I was particularly impressed with their central defender Alexandre Chivadze.

"But we won't be worrying about them too much. We're at home and we've got to go at them from the start.

"They'll be well pleased with a draw so it's important for us to get an early goal," added Peter.

"Mike England has got a tre-

SAYS PETER NICHOLAS (Arsenal and Wales)

mendous spirit going among the squad. He's got us working well for each other and knitted us into a team.

"Although our success is all down to teamwork I've been particularly impressed with the form of Luton's Paul Price and young Everton defender Kevin Ratcliffe."

GROUP THREE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wales	4	4	0	0	10	0	8
Russia	2	2	0	0	7	1	4
Czechoslovakia	3	2	0	1	5	1	4
Iceland	4	1	0	3	4	12	2
Turkey	5	0	0	5	1	13	0

Table does not include result of Czechoslovakia v Iceland on May 27.

Away win so vital

MIDFIELD star Graham Rix has called for a shortening of the League season to help boost England's chances of re-creating former glories.

On the eve of England's crucial World Cup qualifier in Switzerland he told Match Weekly:

"Good results in the next two qualifiers are vital — England need an away victory to make up for the dropped points against Rumania.

"But I believe players need to be razor sharp for international matches and it's not always easy when you go into a game at that level having played 60-odd matches.

"One answer might be to cut down on the number of teams in the First Division to shorten the season, but I don't think it will ever happen.

"It's a problem because while the fans want to see England do well they also want to see their team every Saturday.

"They demand that the League carries on, but I think we should be looking at ways of attaching more importance to the international scene in this country.

Switzerland v England

"While teams like West Germany, Argentina and Brazil stand out, there seems to be a levelling off in international football.

"England were criticised for their home defeat by Spain earlier this year, but a lot of people failed to realise what a good team Spain were."

Despite England's more recent defeat at the hands of Brazil, Graham believes a repeat of the performance against the three-times World Cup winners would be enough against Switzerland.

"If we can play like we did against Brazil we should be alright. I think the lads were positive that night — working hard and hustling. Everyone was wound up to the right frame of mind.

"I came on as substitute when we played Switzerland at Wembley. As I remember it we played well in the first half and went two up.

"They came back to make the final score 2-1, but they had some good footballers. Rene

SAYS GRAHAM RIX (Arsenal and England)



Graham Rix of England and Arsenal — agrees an away victory is vital.

Botteron stands out in my memory as a class player.

"There are no easy games at international level and it's sure to be a tough match over there, but we'll certainly be hoping for a win.

"I'm still confident England will qualify for Spain although it could quite easily go to the last game when Hungary come to Wembley."

GROUP FOUR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	4	2	1	1	7	3	5
Hungary	3	2	1	0	5	3	5
Rumania	4	1	2	1	3	3	4
Norway	4	1	1	2	4	8	3
Switzerland	3	0	1	2	4	6	1

WORLD CUP CRUNCH!

MATCH WEEKLY spotlights this week's vital World Cup clashes on the road to the 1982 Finals in Spain. TOP stars preview the qualifiers involving home countries . . . Switzerland v England and Wales v Russia on Saturday (May 30) and Sweden v Northern Ireland on Wednesday, June 3.

THE DANGER MEN

SWITZERLAND

ROLAND SCHONENBERGER: Although yet to make a real mark in the full national team he is a consistent goal-scorer for his club, Young Boys. Very good in the air.

CLAUDIO SULSER: A lethal striker who was top scorer in the 1978-79 European Champions Cup tournament with 11 goals. His goal it was that knocked Ipswich out of the UEFA Cup the season before last and his goal against Nottingham Forest in the 1979 European Cup quarter final was voted BBC 'Goal of the Month'.

PETER MARTI: Speedy right winger who played a big part in winning the Championship for his club Basel the season before last.

RUEDI ELSENER: One of the fastest wingers in Swiss football and two-footed.

JEAN-PAUL BRIGGER: Burst on to the scene as a dynamic centre forward. Talented striker highly rated by the Swiss manager.

MARKUS TANNER: Midfield schemer with a delicate touch and one of the most talented players in Switzerland.

ERNI MAISSEN: Right-sided midfielder who has established a reputation for scoring vital goals.

MARC SCHNYDER: Skilful midfielder who can make and score goals. Became the first Swiss to hit two goals in an international for ten years when he got both in a 2-0 win over Greece last year.

RUSSIA

DINAMO Tbilisi won many admirers on their way to victory in the European Cup-Winners Cup and such is their strength that many of their players are full Russian internationals.

Here's a run down on some of the Tbilisi players who could cause the Welsh problems in their Group Three qualifier at Wrexham.

DAVID KIPPIANI: One of Russia's top players. He's made 18 appearances for the national side and scored seven goals. He's a midfield schemer with an eye for goal.

RAMAZ SHENGELIA: Not a regular in the Russian side recently, but a useful attacking midfielder player to have around. Was voted Russia's 'Player of the Year' in 1978 when he was just 21.

VLADIMIR GUTSAEV: Fast, direct striker who's scored four goals in his 12 appearances. His career has been plagued by injury.

ALEXANDRE CHIVADZE: Tbilisi skipper and best remembered by English fans for his cracking goal against West Ham in last season's Cup Winners Cup. Although he's turned 35 Chivadze still enjoys going forward. Was voted 'Player of the Year' in 1980.

SHOTA KHINCHAGASHVILI: Strong tackler who organises the Tbilisi defence. He's calm and safe and uses the ball well. Has won 11 caps.

TENGIZ SULAKVELIDZE: Hardworking midfielder player who's won 14 caps for his country.



Middlesbrough's Terry Cochrane: "We are just hoping that the hard work pays off in the end."

That's the spirit

Sweden v N. Ireland

BY TERRY COCHRANE (Middlesbrough and N. Ireland)

NORTHERN Ireland midfielder Terry Cochrane is looking no further ahead than the game against Sweden next week, but he admits: "We'll be disappointed if we don't reach the finals of the World Cup in Spain."

Two points in Sweden would put the Irish joint top of Group Six along with Scotland.

More importantly it would give them a three point cushion over third placed Portugal — the only obstacle in the way of a home countries 'one-two' in the group.

And Terry believes the family spirit in the Northern Ireland squad can carry them through.

"The team has settled down really well and there's a great spirit in the camp — despite the disappointment of England and Wales crying off in their Home International fixtures against us.

"But we are just taking every game as it comes and hope we do well.

"It's not easy to single players out, but midfield players like David McCreery, Sammy McIlroy and Martin O'Neill have played a big part.

"And our main two front runners Billy Hamilton and Gerry Armstrong have done great.

"Three years of preparation

has gone into our World Cup games and we are just hoping that all that hard work will pay off in the end.

"We'll certainly be hoping for something from our game in Sweden next week although it's sure to be a tough match despite our comfortable 3-0 home win over them.

"Every game is crucial. We had to win the Portugal match and we had to get a result up in Scotland.

"And although Portugal are breathing down our necks they have a couple of hard games coming up."

GROUP SIX

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	5	3	2	0	6	2	8
N. Ireland	5	2	2	1	5	2	6
Portugal	4	2	1	1	4	1	5
Israel	6	0	3	3	2	8	3
Sweden	4	0	2	2	1	5	2

REJOICE GLORY
AT CUP

RANGERS



Jubilant Rangers with the Scottish FA Cup following the 4-1 final replay defeat of Dundee United. Back row (left to right): Jim Stewart, Colin McAdam, Jim Bett, Tommy McLean, Tom Forsyth and Davie Cooper. Front: Gregor Stevens, Ian Redford, Sandy

Jardine, Ally Dawson, Derek Johnstone, John MacDonald and Bobby Russell. Rangers goals came from MacDonald (2), Cooper and Russell while David Dodds replied for United.

match
WEEKLY

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MATCH WEEKLY

Alvin Martin describes his surprise England call-up

WEST HAM'S Alvin Martin had planned a quiet week at home before he joined the England party for the Home International Championship.

On top of his list was settling in front of the television set to watch the mighty Brazilians take on his fellow countrymen in the showpiece international at Wembley.

But instead of watching from the comfort of his living room, Alvin found himself lining-up against the magical South Americans for a debut he'll never forget.

Injuries and withdrawals from the squad forced England manager Ron Greenwood to bring in the big central defender from Upton Park earlier than expected.

"It was a great surprise being called up for the squad — let alone being selected to play," Alvin told Match Weekly.

"I was honoured to be a member of the party, but I had no idea I'd be playing. I thought I was there to gain experience and soak up the international atmosphere."

Although the patched up England team lost 1-0, they left the field to a rousing ovation from the Wembley fans after

Above left: Action from England's match with Brazil as Zico (left) swivels to hit the only goal of the game despite the close attentions of Kenny Sansom (3).

Above: Alvin Martin — surprise debut for England against the Brazilians.

covering themselves in glory with a gutsy, determined performance.

"We were a little apprehensive for the first 15 minutes, but after that I thought the lads played very well," said Alvin.

"The media had predicted that we'd get hammered, but we proved them wrong with a performance full of good old fashioned grit.

"I'm under no illusions as to my display. I didn't do anything to shout about — I just did a solid job," said the six foot Liverpudlian.

One of the highlights of a memorable evening came as he lined up before the match to sing the National Anthem.

"That really choked me up. It was then I realised that I was representing my country at the highest level — it was proud and emotional moment for me."

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AUSTIN O'Donnell of Clydebank, Scotland, drew this picture of Nottingham Forest's Trevor Francis and says: "Without Trevor Forest's team just isn't complete."



ARSENAL's David O'Leary — "an excellent player" says P. Tucker of Prestatyn, Clwyd.



KEVIN Bell of Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, drew this picture of Liverpool's Terry McDermott and says: "He was the player I admired most the first day I saw Liverpool play."

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Entries must reach us by first post Friday, June 5. Winners' names will be published in our June 13 issue.



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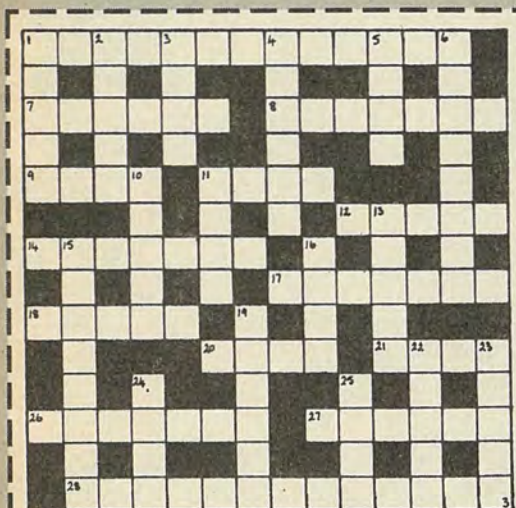


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Across:

1. They were easily top of their division last season (4,3,6)
7. Irish international who joined Norwich from Forest (6)
8. & 5. down. They play at Portman Road (7,4)
9. Dumbarton's nickname makes them sound like members of the family! (4)
11. Brentford's nickname could cause a buzz (4)
12. First name of a regular *Match of the Day* commentator (5)
14. Bob Paisley is a very successful one (7)
17. "Players" (anagram) — in these additional cup matches (7)
18. & 4 down. A Mr Clarke became their manager last season (5,6)
20. See 22 down.
21. --- Whatmore (Bolton Wanderers) (4)
26. Striker who played for 1 across in Wembley cup finals in 1980 and 1981 (7)
27. Roy ---, Swindon defender (6)
28. Welsh club who did well in last season's European Cup-Winners' Cup (7,6)

Down:

1. QPR signed this keeper from Forest and sold him to Norwich (5)



2. Manager of Scotland and previously manager of 18 across (5)
3. Side relegated to Division Four (4)
4. See 18 across
5. See 8 across
6. Manager who has been in charge of Scotland, Chelsea, Aston Villa, Manchester United, QPR, etc. (8)
10. Oddly enough, you usually sit in it! (5)
11. Free passes through the early rounds of some cup competitions (4)
13. First name of that Mr Clarke mentioned in 18 across (5)
15. Runners-up to Celtic in the Scottish Premier Division (8)
16. Bournemouth's ground is -- Court (4)
19. If it's not a goal-kick it must be this (6)
- 22 & 20 across. Famous pop-star who is chairman of Watford (5,4)
23. First name of Mr Lloyd, the Wigan manager (5)
24. A result with no winner (4)
25. Gordon --- managed QPR and Millwall before taking over Tampa Bay Rowdies (4)



Name this striker for the answer to 26 across.

52 WEEKS TO GO

The reluctant Moroccans

JUST Fontaine, the former French World Cup goalscoring hero who is now in charge of African challengers Morocco, has encountered a few amusing problems in his job in the last 12 months.

One was trying to encourage the players in Morocco to run — and the other was in getting them to shoot!

Fontaine said: "I hope I have made them a little better. When I came to the national team they played the Moroccan style."

"They did not play when they did not have the ball. They did not run."

"Shooting is another problem. Even when they are close to the goal they do not want to shoot. They want to go past the goalkeeper and enter the net with the ball."

Fontaine, who has been in charge of Morocco for more than a year, does not expect an African side to win in Spain, but tips Brazil, West Germany, Argentina and Italy as the top teams to beat.

Sepp's new life

SEPP Maier, the former West German World Cup goalkeeper, now runs a tennis club, a typical Munich beer cellar and has recently gone in for television acting and directing.

WORLD CUP



Scrapbook

Star in trouble

URUGUAYAN striker Victorino's hopes of hitting the big time with a move to Europe were not helped when he got himself into disciplinary trouble with his club Nacional of Montevideo.

The man who won cars for his scoring exploits in the Gold Cup and against Forest in the World Club final was caught having a night out on the town in Mexico and banned and fined for his fun.

Golden Manfred?

THIS year's winner of the splendid Golden Boot award as Europe's top scorer could be the virtually unknown international reject Manfred Burgsmuller of Dortmund who has notched 25 goals in 26 games and has not appeared for West Germany since 1978.

That was the week that was

May 30-June 5



Kevin Keegan in his Hamburg days. It was this time four years ago that the England skipper moved from Liverpool to West Germany.

THE end of the season traditionally brings a rush of transfer activity and Kevin Keegan made the news on June 3, 1977, when he moved from Liverpool to SV Hamburg.

The England skipper signed off by helping Liverpool beat Borussia Moenchengladbach 3-1 in the European Cup Final before moving to Germany for £500,000.

Here are some other important football events which happened this corresponding week in years gone by: June 4, 1975 . . . Ron Saunders is appointed manager of newly promoted First Division Aston Villa. He succeeds Vic Crowe.

June 1, 1976 . . . Kevin Keegan's in the news again. He scores twice for England in a 3-1 win over Team America — a side that includes such stars as former England captain Bobby Moore and Brazilian ace Pele.

May 31, 1977 . . . Wales record their first win on English soil when they beat England 1-0 at Wembley. The goalscorer is Leighton James (now Swansea).

June 4, 1977 . . . More gloom for England — this time at the hands of arch rivals Scotland. Gordon McQueen (Man. Utd.) and Kenny Dalglish (Liverpool) score in a 2-1 win.

June 1, 1978 . . . Allan Clarke takes the first step on the managerial ladder. He joins Barnsley as player-manager in a £45,000 deal.

June 2, 1978 . . . Wigan are elected to the Football League and take the place of Southport in the Fourth Division.

May 30, 1979 . . . Trevor Francis repays a massive chunk of his £1m transfer fee when his header gives Nottingham Forest a 1-0 win over Malmo in the European Cup Final . . . Gary Owen makes the transfer news with a £450,000 move from Manchester City to West Brom.

May 31, 1980 . . . Spurs' Glenn Hoddle and Paul Mariner of Ipswich score in England's first ever international against Australia. England win 2-1.

June 4, 1980 . . . Brighton splash out £400,000 to bring Gordon Smith down from Rangers and Luton sign goalkeeper Raddi Antic from Yugoslav club Zaragosa.

Our Super Seven

LOOKING back on the season, the highlight for me was undoubtedly the tremendous run of seven straight wins to finish our programme.

I remember we lost to a Kevin Keegan goal at Southampton on March 7, held Villa (3-3) and Forest (1-1) then reeled off memorable wins over Ipswich (2-1), Everton (1-0), Palace (1-0), Coventry (2-0), Liverpool (1-0), West Brom (2-1) and Norwich (1-0) to complete the season in grand style.

Unfortunately I managed only six league goals, but I hope to do better next season. I'm going into hospital for a small operation to remove an ingrowing toe nail when I get back from the England tour, so perhaps that might do the trick!

I'll miss you, Tommy

I'LL miss Tommy Cavanagh, who resigned as assistant manager, along with Dave Sexton recently.

Tommy was perhaps the main reason I came to Old Trafford and I owe my success to him above all, for coaxing me along.

I first saw him when I was 18 and playing for Tranmere 'A' team against United 'A' at the Cliff training ground — incidentally that was the day all the players had their wallets and watches stolen from the dressing rooms!

I wondered who the hell was this white haired 'old man' striding along the touchline shouting his head off.

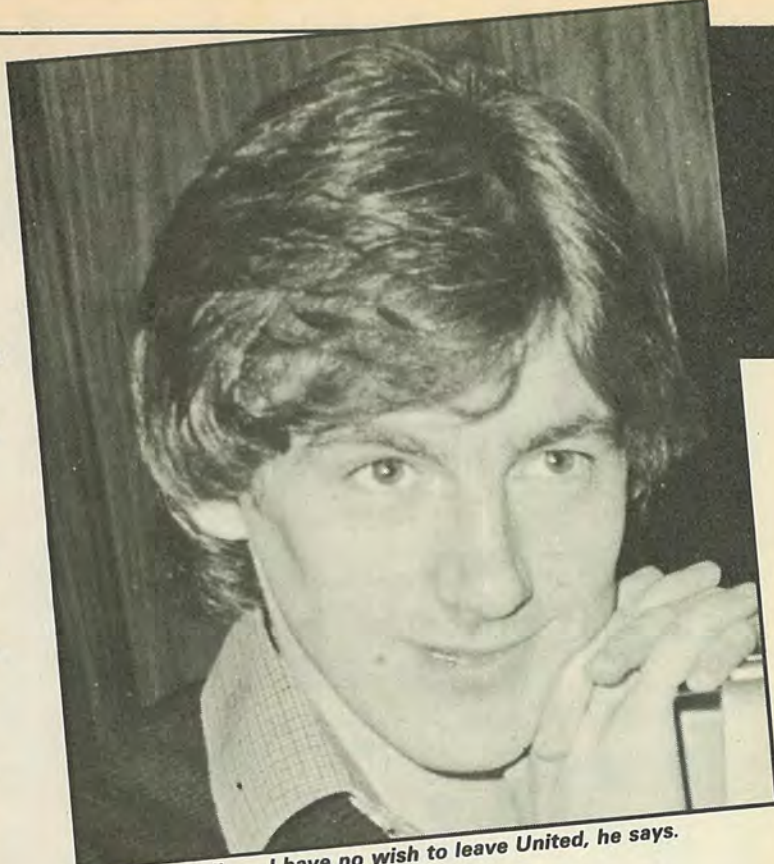
It was Tommy, and he was the first person I met when I signed for United and we have been firm friends ever since.

Without doubt he'll be back in football soon, urging more youngsters along and never stuck for a song or two!

Scousers reunion

ENGLAND training was like a Scousers reunion for the Brazil game what with no fewer than six of the party born within a free-kick of the Mersey tunnel.

As well as myself and Terry McDermott, Liverpoolians Dennis Mortimer, Peter Withe, Alvin Martin and Kenny Swain came into the squad and with adopted 'scousers' Ray Clemence and Phil Neale there, too, it was just like home!



Steve Coppel . . . I have no wish to leave United, he says.



Former Manchester United assistant manager Tommy Cavanagh with Kevin Moran (5). "I'll miss Tommy," says Coppel (left).

WEST HAM, McMENEMY AND ME

BY STEVE COPPELL

Manchester United's England star writes only in Match Weekly

I RETURNED from a tour match in Israel last week to learn that I'd been seen at Upton Park in the past few days, bought a house in West London and was about to join West Ham United for £650,000!

On top of that it was reported that my contract was up at Manchester United and that I wanted to leave Old Trafford because I didn't like the idea of Lawrie McMenemy being linked with the manager's job.

And the fact that I shared a room with Trevor Brooking before the England game with Brazil, only served to add fuel to the rumours.

I'll tell you now what I told Trevor — who had also heard the rumours and was interested in my reaction . . .

THERE'S NO TRUTH IN ANY OF IT!

I haven't been near West Ham, or any local estate agents and I have no intention of leaving Old Trafford, besides by contract does not expire until July 1982.

As for not liking Lawrie McMenemy, that's rubbish. I have tremendous respect for him, as anyone would for a manager who has done for Southampton Football Club what he has.

Funnily enough, I've really only met him once and that was in America a couple of years ago when we were on holiday in Tampa Bay in the same hotel.

We got on well although I remember I did beat his son Chris at tennis!

I don't know what he thinks of me, but as far as I'm concerned I have no wish to leave Old Trafford, and as for the significance of sharing with Trevor, there is none . . . it was just that my usual England room-mate Dave Watson was on tour with Southampton in the Far East.



STEVE COPPELL now heads the list of players West Ham want to strengthen their First Division squad.

His contract at Manchester United is due for renewal but, like former colleague Stuart Pearson, he may think it's time for a move from Old Trafford.

TONY WOODCOCK is injured and out of England's squad for Tuesday's Wembley

Flashback to how the rumours started. This is an extract from the Sunday People, May 10, 1981.

Brazil 11 Peles!



Steve Coppel in action against Brazil . . . that's Socrates on the ground.

Lawrie McMenemy . . . "I have tremendous respect for what he has done at Southampton," says Coppel.

He thinks so quickly and so far ahead that I don't think he bothered to control the ball at all — he did everything first time and so accurately, too.

IT WAS like playing against 11 Peles in the first 20 minutes of the Brazil match at Wembley.

They frightened us with their skill so much that we were all in danger of standing back transfixed as they went about their brilliant business.

But shortly after that goal from Zico — what a fabulous player he is — we buckled down and in the end were unlucky not to level the scores.

Peter Barnes and myself were under orders to seek out Brazil's defensive weakness by running at them and at the same time support Peter Withe — whom I reckon did really well for his first cap.

But I reckon Bryan Robson was our outstanding player. He did a fabulous job in an unaccustomed sweeper's role, while as well as Zico, Socrates stood out for Brazil.

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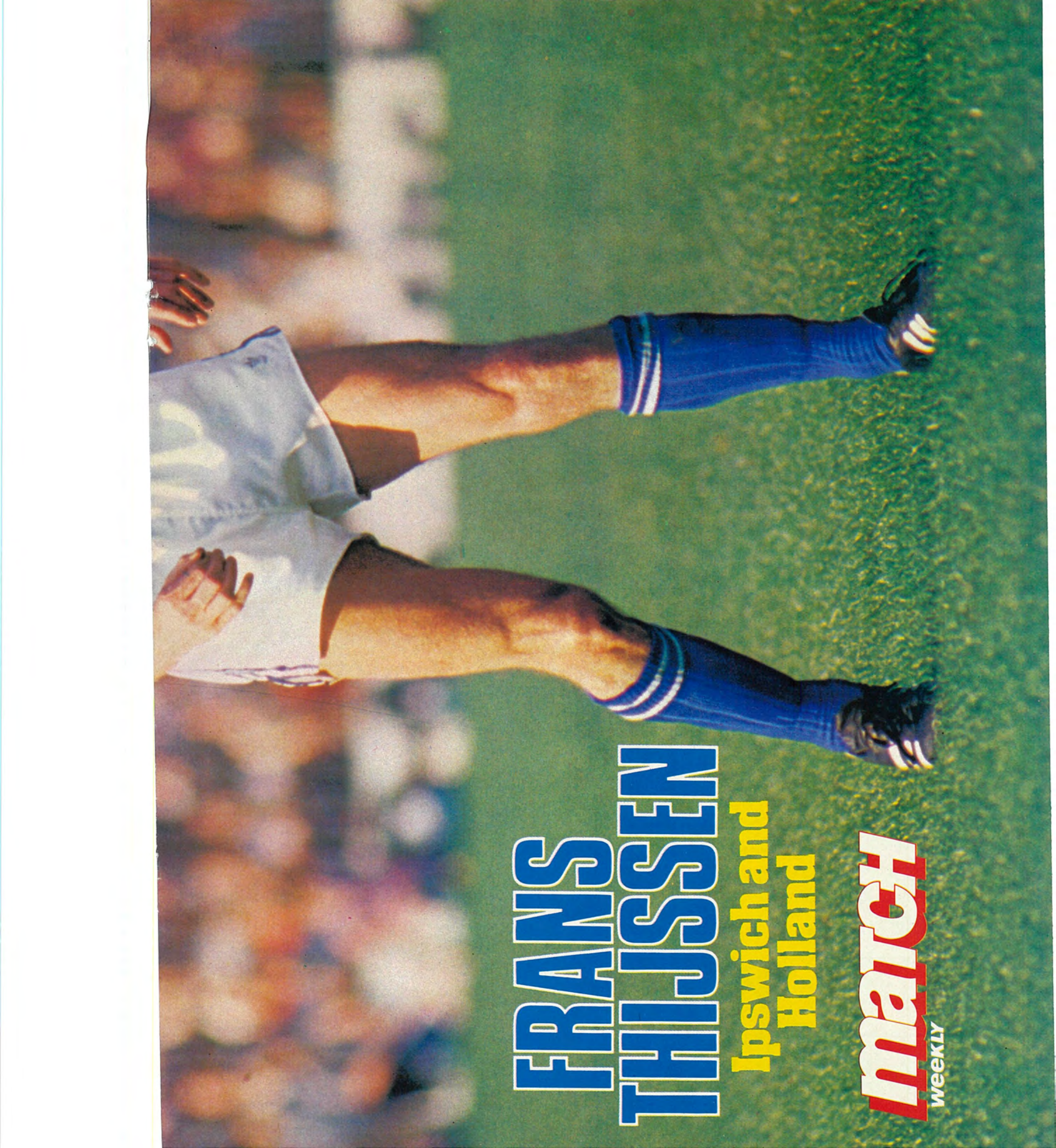
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MATCH WEEKLY

**FOOTBALLER
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SOUVENIR**





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Ipswich and
Holland

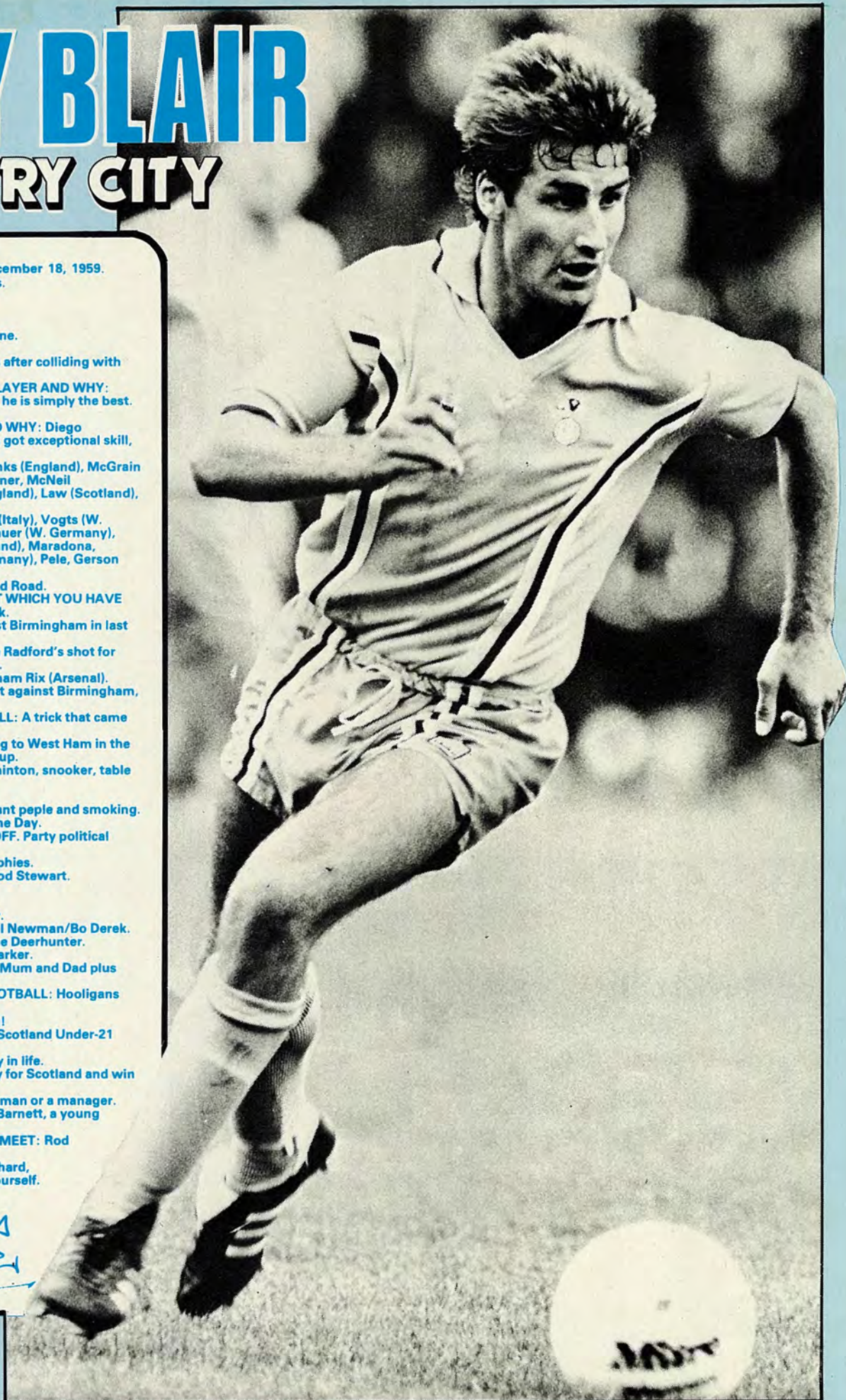
match
weekly

ANDY BLAIR

COVENTRY CITY

FULL NAME: Andrew Blair.
BIRTHPLACE/DATE: Kirkcaldy, December 18, 1959.
HEIGHT/WEIGHT: 5ft 8ins/10st 4lbs.
MARRIED: No.
CAR: Talbot Solara.
PREVIOUS CLUBS: None.
TRADE BEFORE TURNING PRO: None.
CLUB NICKNAME: Engines.
WORST EVER INJURY: Bruised ribs after colliding with John Sillett in training.
FAVOURITE FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYER AND WHY: Liverpool's Kenny Dalglish because he is simply the best.
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Leeds.
FAVOURITE FOREIGN PLAYER AND WHY: Diego Maradona (Argentina) because he's got exceptional skill, ball control and awareness.
BEST ALL TIME BRITISH TEAM: Banks (England), McGrain (Scotland), Cooper (England), Bremner, McNeil (Scotland), Todd, Ball, Greaves (England), Law (Scotland), Giles (Eire), Best (Northern Ireland).
ALL TIME INTERNATIONAL XI: Zoff (Italy), Vogts (W. Germany), Krol (Holland), Beckenbauer (W. Germany), Passarella (Argentina), Cruyff (Holland), Maradona, Ardiles (Argentina), Muller (W. Germany), Pele, Gerson (Brazil).
FAVOURITE AWAY GROUND: Elland Road.
FAVOURITE FOREIGN STADIUM AT WHICH YOU HAVE PLAYED: Grants Stadium, New York.
BEST GOAL SCORED: A chip against Birmingham in last season's FA Cup meeting.
BEST GOAL SEEN SCORED: Ronnie Radford's shot for Hereford in the FA Cup v Newcastle.
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Graham Rix (Arsenal).
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Debut against Birmingham, October 1978.
OWN MAGIC MOMENT IN FOOTBALL: A trick that came off in a game against Norwich.
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing to West Ham in the semi-final of last season's League Cup.
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Badminton, snooker, table tennis and golf.
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Sweets.
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Ignorant people and smoking.
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: Match Of The Day.
TV SHOW YOU ALWAYS SWITCH OFF: Party political broadcasts.
FAVOURITE READING: Autobiographies.
FAVOURITE MUSICIAN/SINGER: Rod Stewart.
FAVOURITE FOOD: Steak.
FAVOURITE DRINK: Tea.
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Germany.
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Paul Newman/Bo Derek.
BEST FILM SEEN IN PAST YEAR: The Deerhunter.
BEST FRIEND: School-mate John Darker.
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Mum and Dad plus everyone at Coventry.
WHAT YOU DON'T LIKE ABOUT FOOTBALL: Hooligans and bad losers.
PRE-MATCH MEAL: I'll eat anything!
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: Two Scotland Under-21 caps.
PERSONAL AMBITION: To be happy in life.
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To play for Scotland and win everything with Coventry.
CAREER AFTER PLAYING: Businessman or a manager.
A PLAYER FOR THE FUTURE: Gary Barnett, a young striker at Coventry.
WHO WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET: Rod Stewart.
ADVICE TO YOUNGSTERS: Work hard, practice your skills and express yourself.

*Best wishes
 Andy Blair*



What a relief!

WHAT a relief! That's the only way I can describe my feelings immediately after Ipswich Town's UEFA Cup triumph in Holland.

After going so close in the FA Cup and the League Championship race, it was a relief to know that we had a trophy to show for an outstanding season.

When everything had sunk in, that sense of relief turned to total elation in the dressing room. It was a great night for the club and players.

Although the occasion didn't match the colour and glamour of our 1978 FA Cup Final success at Wembley, it's a tremendous feeling to have a European medal in your collection.

I've been fortunate to realise most players' dreams — playing for England, and winning FA Cup and European medals. My other ambition is to win the League Championship and I hope that will be realised next season.

Let's face it, there are a lot of players in the First Division who never even get the chance to play in Europe, let alone win a medal.

The players carried the name of Ipswich and England with a great deal of distinction on our European travels and the quality of the teams in the UEFA Cup makes our success even more impressive.

Dutch champions AZ Alkmaar certainly gave us a testing time in Amsterdam in the second leg, but I was never worried because most of their efforts were from long range.

Scoring twice in the first half through Frans Thijssen and John Wark gave us breathing space. If you score two goals away from home and don't win overall then you really want shooting.

Although they made it 4-2 on the night with 15 minutes left, I still couldn't see them scoring two more goals because they looked a spent force at that late stage.

But I'll say this for the Dutch side, their players were the most sporting I have ever come across. They laughed and joked among themselves on the field when things didn't work out

and afterwards they came in the dressing room one by one to wish us all the best.

It was a case of mutual respect for one another. They knew we were a good team from the first leg and we realised after the second leg that they were also a good team. All in all, it was a great advertisement for football.

Reflecting on our UEFA campaign, the 4-1 victory at St Etienne and our 5-0 home thrashing of crack Polish side Widzew Lodz stick out in my memory as the outstanding moments.

On the other side of the coin our first round visit to Greek club Aris Solinika was a nightmare. We lost the second leg 3-0 and I'm glad I don't play there every week, unless I'm on the home side!

Action from the second leg of the UEFA Cup Final as Russell Osman (right) slides in to rob Alkmaar's Kees Kist of the ball. John Wark is backing up.



UEFA CUP FINAL Second Leg

AZ ALKMAAR (Holland) (3) 4 (Welsz 7, Metgod 24, Tol 39, Jonker 73)
IPSWICH (2) 2 (Thijssen 4, Wark 31)
Att: 28,500 (At Olympic Stadium, Amsterdam)
Ipswich win 5-4 on aggregate
AZ Alkmaar: Treytel 6, Reyniers 5, Spelbos 7, *METGOD 9, Hovenkamp 8, Peters 8, Welsz 7 (sub. Talan), Arntz 7, Jonker 8, Nigaard 7, Tol 7 (sub. Kist 6).
Ipswich: Cooper 8, Mills 7, McCall 6, Thijssen 7, Osman 6, Butcher 6, Wark 7, Muhren 6, Mariner 6, *BRAZIL 9, Gates 5.
Referee: W. Weschweiler (W. Germany)
Match Rating: ★★★★★

MATCH columnist Paul Mariner brings you the inside stories from Ipswich Town's night of glory in Europe last week.

Wark tall, John!

WHAT a season my mate John Wark had with 36 goals in all and a record-equalising 14 in Europe.

Everything he touched last season seemed to turn to gold, but I don't think he gets the credit he deserves because of the presence of the Dutchmen Frans Thijssen and Arnold Muhren.

John times his runs to perfection and reads the game like a book and I think the Dutchmen would be the first to admit that they would not be as effective without him.

Likewise, John obviously owes a lot to the chances and space created by Frans and Arnold.

Lift nightmare

Four of our players had a bit of a nightmare shortly before the match in Amsterdam.

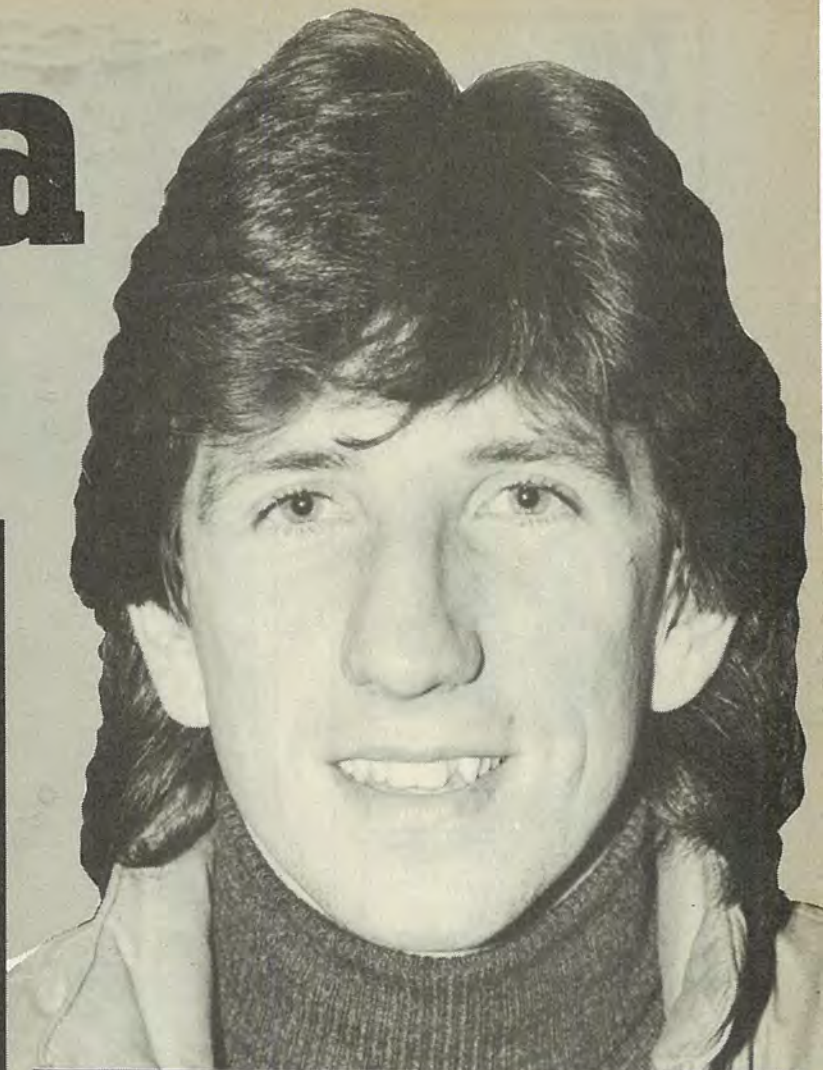
Alan Brazil, Mick Mills, Paul Cooper and Eric Gates got stuck in a hotel lift for twenty minutes.

With temperatures in the eighties, you can imagine what

sort of state they were in when rescued.

They were all sweating so much that they had to have a bath and change their clothes and so we had to delay our departure from the hotel to the ground.

So that was hardly the best preparation for a crucial match.



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NICKY

Eager for the good

HAVING tasted life in the First Division and the glamour of football in America, Southend goalkeeper Mervyn Cawston is eager for the good times again.

And with Southend having taken the Fourth Division by storm last season, he's on the right road back towards the higher life.

"I felt we were rather unlucky to be relegated from the Third Division the season before last.

"We were by no means as bad as our position suggested," says the former Norwich and Chicago Sting goalkeeper.

"A lot of teams we played praised our football and we lost no fewer than 13 matches by the odd goal.

"So, despite the setback, we all felt

that's Southend's Mervyn Cawston

confident that we could climb back straight away, although we never thought it would be so comfortable.

"Mind you, we did have to battle at times for points because it's a hard division.

"But we were near the top for most of season and so life was that much easier.

"We certainly would have been disappointed had we not achieved promotion because our side is good enough to make an impression in the Third.

JOHNS TELLS HOW...

Relegation did Charlton good

CHARLTON are back in the Second Division with goalkeeper Nicky Johns claiming that relegation last year may have been a blessing in disguise for the club.

"No-one likes to be relegated, but having struggled for three seasons in the Second, the club badly needed a shot in the arm," says the former Millwall and Tampa Bay 'keeper.

"By going down to the Third we managed to stay in the top three all season, therefore bringing the fans some much-needed success and giving the players a boost in confidence.

"We were always confident about bouncing straight back to the Second despite our struggles.

"We went away on a close season tour and talked quite a bit about the problems.

"Manager Mike Bailey decided that we ought to be much tighter in all defensive areas and this has been the key to our success this season.

"We haven't been giving away so many goals and with players like Derek Hales and Paul Walsh up front we are always likely to pinch a goal or two.

"For instance, we managed only three shots against Swindon and won 3-0. And we were murdered by Newport yet sneaked the points."

Towards the end of last season there were signs that Charlton's promotion bid was flagging, although Nicky claims the players weren't worried.

life again

"I'm sure we won't be going down straight away next time."

Mervyn, who conceded only six League goals at home last season, would like to see Southend achieve even higher status, but he appreciates it will be tough in the Third.

"There are a lot of good teams in the Third Division and we are going to find it a lot harder next season, but I'm confident we shall finish in the top half of the table."

Right: Southend's Mervyn Cawston: "We never thought we would achieve promotion so comfortably."

"We lost three out of four in a bad spell, but fortunately we had a bit of a cushion at the top and one of our main rivals, Huddersfield, also dropped points at the same time."

Apart from the addition of former Tottenham full back Terry Naylor, Charlton are returning to the Second Division with the same squad, but Nicky is confident they won't struggle this time.

"Our success next season will depend on how good a start we make. It's vital we get off to a reasonable start, otherwise we may find it hard again."

From Nicky's own point of view, he would like to play in the top flight with the club.

"At the moment I am quite happy to be playing in the Second Division next season, but I am also ambitious and at 23 I suppose I still have a chance of playing in the top flight, hopefully, with Charlton."

Left: Nicky Johns in high flying action for Charlton against Fulham: "The club badly needed a shot in the arm."

Right: Former Tottenham player Terry Naylor has helped Charlton back into the Second Division.



Turn to the inside back page to find out how Mervyn Cawston fared in our exclusive 'Top Stoppers' table.

NICKY Johns and Mervyn Cawston are two goalkeepers on the up and up after helping net their respective club's promotion last season.

Here they talk about the battle for higher grade football and reveal their hopes for the future.



THE SAFEST HANDS IN SOCCER—Division 4

Fantastic...that's Felgate!

THE first column in the table below shows the number of games played.

The second column shows the number of goals conceded and the third column is the average number of minutes' play between each goal.

For instance, Torquay's Vince O'Keefe, one of our 'Matchmen of the Month' last season, conceded on average one League goal every 66 minutes.

Note: Only Football League matches have been used in the compilation of this table and only goalkeepers who had played at least twenty games qualified for inclusion.

DAVID Felgate, the young goalkeeper of promoted Lincoln City, had the safest hands in the Fourth Division last season.

The 21-year-old former Bolton 'keeper conceded only 23 goals in 42 League matches for the Red Imps... an average of one goal every 164 minutes.

So it's been quite a memorable season for the youngster who joined Lincoln

from the Second Division club for £25,000 last October.

Apart from being the backbone of Lincoln's promotion drive, he was called into the full Welsh squad for the first time as understudy to Wrexham's Dai Davies.

His impressive record put him clear of former Norwich goalkeeper Mervyn Cawston whose Southend side edged out Lincoln for the Championship.

Although Mervyn kept no fewer than 26 clean sheets in 46 matches, he conceded 31 goals.

The only other two Fourth Division goalkeepers to concede less than a goal a game were Aldershot's Glenn Johnson and Mansfield's Rod Arnold, whose teams fell out of the promotion race in the closing stages.



THE TOP STOPPERS

Goalkeepers	Games	Gls.	Mins. played per Goal
1 David Felgate (Lincoln)	42	23	164
2 Mervyn Cawston (Southend)	46	31	133
3 Rod Arnold (Mansfield)	39	34	103
4 Glen Johnson (Aldershot)	42	38	99
5 Dave Beasant (Wimbledon)	34	34	90
6 Pat Cuff (Darlington)	30	32	84
7 Willie Boyd (Doncaster)	45	49	83
8 Bob Ward (Wigan)	37	41	81
9 Keith Waugh (Peterborough)	45	52	78
9 David Lawson (Stockport)	44	51	78
11 Nev Southall (Bury)	39	46	76
11 Neil Ramsbottom (Bradford C.)	20	26	76
13 Ken Mulhearn (Crewe)	46	61	68
14 Steve Smith (Bradford C.)	26	35	67
15 Vince O'Keefe (Torquay)	45	61	66
16 Eddie Blackburn (York)	44	63	63
17 Graham Richardson (Hartlepool)	30	44	61
18 Joe Neenan (Scunthorpe)	44	66	60
19 Graeme Crawford (Rochdale)	40	61	59
20 Andrew Brand (Hereford)	22	34	58
21 Dick Johnson (Tranmere)	45	71	57
22 John Kilner (Halifax)	41	66	55
23 Mark Harrison (P. Vale)	24	41	53

Above right: Lincoln's David Felgate — top stopper in the Fourth Division.

Right: Glenn Johnson of Aldershot — one of only four Fourth Division 'keepers to concede less than a goal a game.



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● NEXT WEEK: Division
Three — how did your
favourite team's
goalkeeper fare?

Gerry heads for Spain

Gerry Armstrong (Northern Ireland) v Portugal, World Cup Group 6 qualifier, Windsor Park, Belfast, Wednesday, April 29, 1980.

NORTHERN Ireland edged themselves a step nearer a place in the World Cup finals in Spain, with this crucial victory in front of 25,000 frantic Irishmen.

But minutes earlier Billy Bingham's men almost had to forfeit their hopes, when the Norwegian referee threatened to abandon the game after retrieving a missile thrown from the crowd into the Portuguese penalty area.

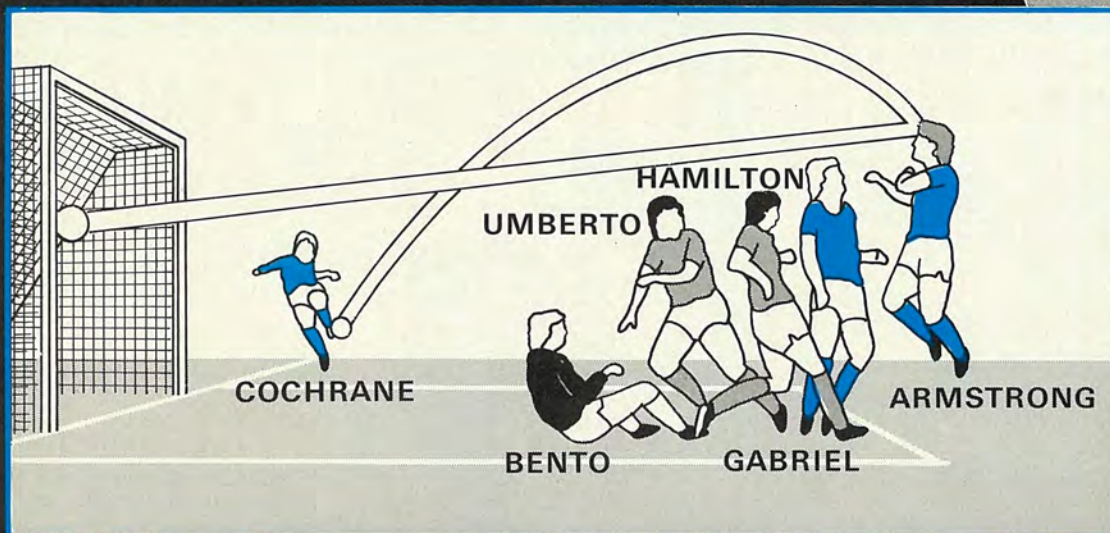
Fortunately, however, order was quickly restored and in the 76th minute Watford's Gerry Armstrong snatched the all-important goal. He recalled:

"Sammy Nelson hit a long free-kick into the area and it deflected off the head of a Portugal defender and looked to be going for a corner.

"Nearly everyone stopped, except Terry Cochrane, who raced after it and knocked it in left footed and I couldn't believe the room I had to head it home."

Gerry's surprise must have been as a result of goalkeeper Bento bumping into his own defender Gabriel as he moved to collect the cross, but that couldn't take the jubilation away from Armstrong who whooped his way to team in a handy second place in the group behind Scotland.

GOLDEN GOAL



PART
20

The KENNY DALGLISH Story



THE STORY SO FAR... KENNY DALGLISH HAS JOINED LIVERPOOL FROM CELTIC & WON TWO SUCCESSIVE CHAMPIONSHIPS. NOW HE IS ON THE BRINK OF ANOTHER TITLE... THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP.

THEN A MINUTE LATER TERRY McDERMOTT TIPPED AN ALVIN MARTIN HEADER OVER THE BAR...

...AND RAY STEWART SCORED THE DRAMATIC PENALTY EQUALISER WITH THE LAST KICK OF THE GAME.

WATCHED BY 100,000 AT WEMBLEY THE FINAL ON MARCH 14th, 1981 AGAINST WEST HAM WAS HEADING FOR STALEMATE WHEN ALAN KENNEDY SCORED A CONTROVERSIAL GOAL FOR LIVERPOOL TWO MINUTES FROM THE END OF EXTRA-TIME. TEAM-MATE SAMMY LEE WAS ON THE GROUND & OFFSIDE BUT REFEREE THOMAS ALLOWED THE GOAL TO STAND.

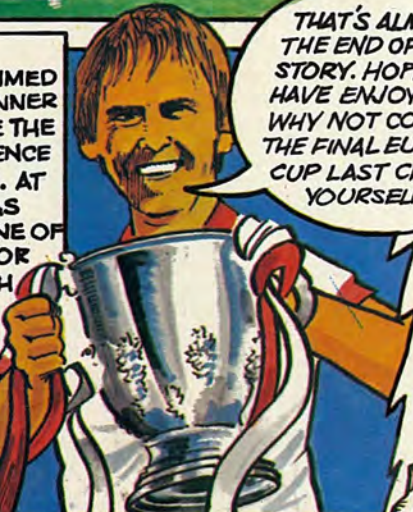


PAUL GODDARD HEADED WEST HAM IN FRONT IN THE REPLAY AT VILLA PARK ON APRIL 1st...

BEFORE KENNY PUT LIVERPOOL LEVEL WITH A BRILLIANT VOLLEY FROM McDERMOTT'S CHIP.

ALAN HANSEN EVENTUALLY CLAIMED LIVERPOOL'S WINNER CLIMBING ABOVE THE HAMMERS' DEFENCE TO HEAD HOME. AT LAST KENNY WAS ABLE TO LIFT ONE OF ONLY TWO MAJOR TROPHIES WHICH HAD ELUDED HIM.

THAT'S ALMOST THE END OF MY STORY. HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED IT... WHY NOT COLOUR IN THE FINAL EUROPEAN CUP LAST CHAPTER YOURSELF.



STORY-BOB WARTERS
GRAPHICS-BOMM
TIMON.

THE END

PAT JENNINGS

**Arsenal and
N Ireland**



THE GREAT ESCAPE

Cardiff defy the drop once again

WHEN it comes to fighting relegation battles, Cardiff City can count on more experience than most teams in the country.

In the past ten seasons they have been relegated once and survived by the skin of their teeth on six other occasions.

The latest escape act came last season when they scraped the home point they needed from runaway champions West Ham to retain their Second Division status on goal difference from Preston.

With South Wales rivals Swansea City promoted to the First Division for the first time, it's a doubly frustrating experience for the Cardiff camp engaged in virtually an annual battle for survival.

"We are all envious of Swansea's success," says Welsh international defender Phil Dwyer.

"It has been a marvellous few seasons for them, although they have been allowed to spend more money than ourselves and manager John Toshack has spent wisely.

"We would love to bring the same kind of success to Cardiff. Our only success in recent years was winning promotion from the Third at the first attempt five years ago."

Despite the relegation fears

that continually hang over Ninian Park, Phil believes Cardiff are a worthy Second Division club.

"We proved over the final weeks of the season that we were good enough. We drew with Swansea and West Ham and won at Grimsby.

"Our main problem has been at home where we have struggled to score goals.

"It seemed that all our potential scorers went through bad spells at the same time.

"But even though we needed a point from the last game to guarantee safety we never thought we would go down.

"We were confident of getting a result. Let's face it we have plenty of players who have been in this situation before."

Phil is optimistic about next season's prospects:

"With two or three additions to the squad I'm sure we can do well next season.

"Apart from West Ham last season, there was little to choose between the rest of the teams.

"So I am fairly confident that we won't be involved in a battle for survival next season."

Right: Phil Dwyer — confident Cardiff can avoid another relegation battle next season.



CARDIFF'S TALE OF WOE

The table below gives you an at-a-glance guide to Cardiff's League record over the past ten seasons.

Season	Division	Final placing	
1980-81	Two	19th	(Missed relegation on goal diff.)
1979-80	Two	15th	
1978-79	Two	9th	
1977-78	Two	19th	(Missed relegation by one pt.)
1976-77	Two	18th	(Missed relegation on goal diff.)
1975-76	Three	3rd	(Promoted.)
1974-75	Two	21st	(Relegated.)
1973-74	Two	17th	(Missed relegation by two pts.)
1972-73	Two	20th	(Missed relegation on goal aver.)
1971-72	Two	19th	(Missed relegation by one pt.)

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I AM a 14-year-old Finnish boy who supports Arsenal and would like a pen friend who also supports the Gunners and who is interested in exchanging photographs, pennants and badges.

Marten Westö, Perustie 33,
00330, Helsinki 33, Finland.

I SUPPORT Spurs, like tennis and play football for my school team. I would like to write to a Dundee United supporter living in Dundee.

Gavin Barnes, 'The Glade',
Common Rd, Headley, Nr.
Newbury, Berkshire.

I AM 17-years-old and would like a boy pen pal about the same age. I am a Liverpool fanatic and would like to hear from a true Liverpoolian who lives on

Penpals

Merseyside.

Debbie Ostermeyer, 7 Kent
Drive, Cockfosters, Herts.

THIRTEEN-year-old Arsenal supporter would like a pen pal of the same age who supports any team. I like most modern music, but especially Hazel O'Connor.

Janet Hey, 2 Takerville Place,
Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne.

I AM an 11-year-old Liverpool and Newcastle supporter and would like a pen pal of the same age.

Tommy Hay, 33 Longfield
Terrace, Walker, Newcastle upon
Tyne.

Russians rejoice

THE victorious Russian side Dinamo Tbilisi celebrate their success in the European Cup Winners' Cup Final in Dusseldorf.

The talented Russians, who caught the imagination of the British public with their impressive 4-1 slamming of West Ham in the quarter-final tie at Upton Park, defeated East Germany's Carl Zeiss Jena 2-1 in the final.

It's the first time since 1975 that a Russian side has won a

European trophy. The last team to do it was Dinamo Kiev who defeated Hungary's Ferencvaros in the Cup Winners' Cup.

Many of the side are expected to face Wales in a World Cup qualifier on Saturday.



Meet our Newport 'Matchman'

NEWPORT skipper Keith Oakes, a key figure in the Third Division club's successful adventures in Europe last season, receives his 'Matchman of the Month' award for March from Match Weekly reporter Anthony Hawkswell.

Keith, one of the top scoring defenders in the country, played a prominent part in Newport's march to the quarter finals of the Cup Winners' Cup where they were unlucky to lose to East German side Carl Zeiss Jena, the beaten finalists.

Match Chat

Compiled by Bob Warters



Buchan in a daze

A CLASH of heads left Manchester United skipper Martin Buchan dazed and confused in Tel Aviv.

Knocked out in the first few minutes, he came round and looking along the trainer's bench asked: 'What's Jack (Crompton) doing here? Where's the boss and Tommy Cavanagh?'

His team-mates had to quietly remind him that manager Dave Sexton and his assistant had been sacked seven days earlier and that trainer Compton had been put in temporary charge of the squad.

Buchan recovered fully later to learn that Lou Macari had earned United a 1-1 draw with a typical back header against a Tel Aviv Select XI which included eight of the players who faced Scotland in a World Cup qualifier at Hampden Park.



Sorry, folks

OK, hands up all those who couldn't spot any differences in our May 16 issue cartoon competition to win a stereo record player. Now hands up all those who did spot some differences...

If you were in the second group, congratulations because there weren't any!

Due to a technical error we inserted two identical unchanged cartoons, and for that we apologise, especially if you were one of the many who were scratching their heads for hours to find phantom alterations.

Obviously the competition has been cancelled and will be re-run at a later date. All those who sent in entries by the closing date will have their postage refunded.

Farewell, Tommy

ONE of football's most loyal players, Peterborough United winger Tommy Robson, made his Football League farewell recently with a testimonial match against Ipswich.

The former Northampton, Newcastle and Chelsea forward made 440 League appearances in 12 seasons with Peterborough.

All in all the 36-year-old player made a total of 514 League appearances in twenty years of League football.

It is expected that Tommy will possibly accept a player-manager's job with a local non-league side.

Now Swansea are Euro-bound, too

WHAT a season for Swansea City. After achieving promotion to the First Division for the first time, they lifted the Welsh Cup for the fifth time with a 2-1 aggregate victory over Fourth Division Hereford.

So John Toshack's side are in Europe for the first time since 1966-67. In fact, even if they had lost, they would have represented Wales in the Cup Winners Cup. Hereford are not members of the Welsh FA, they would not have been eligible to lead Wales into Europe.

Robbie James, who scored the winner in the first leg at the Vetch Field, produced the equaliser in the 1-1 draw at Hereford.

match

weekly

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Sulking Spur

RICKY VILLA shouldn't have trudged off to the dressing room in a sulk when Spurs manager Keith Burkinshaw substituted him in the first FA Cup Final at Wembley.

The midfielder should have admitted that he had a disastrous game and accepted his manager's decision.

Obviously he was disappointed but at least he had the honour of playing at Wembley — that's something many players never get a chance to do.

Simon Johnson (12), Linslade, Beds.

Right: Ricky Villa of Spurs — substituted at Wembley. But what a great game in the replay.

Great, Tosh!

SALUTE John Toshack — what a tremendous job he has done for Swansea!

From the heights of the First Division with Liverpool he dropped right down to the Fourth to manage struggling Swansea.

In just five seasons he has taken them up to the top flight for the first time in their history and given us Welsh supporters something to be proud of. Well done John.

Simon Roberts, Rhos-on-Sea, North Wales.



Premier destroyer

SCOTTISH football is being destroyed by the Premier Division.

The present 10 team structure allows no margin for error and this encourages teams to adopt negative tactics in a bid to survive.

Scotland doesn't have a large football following and many supporters are being turned away from the game because they don't want to watch 90 minutes of defensive football.

It's important that the Scottish League revert to the old system — that was more entertaining.

Douglas Drinnan, Prestwich, Ayrshire.

TERRACE TALK

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ANYONE INTERESTED in newsletter on youth football should write to:— David Groves, 26 Titsey Road, Limpsfield, Surrey, RH8 0DF.

Scots will 'wing' it to Spain

IT'S great to see that Scotland manager Jock Stein is prepared to bring back wingers.

Scotland's game against Israel saw him play John Robertson (Nottingham Forest) and Davie Provan (Celtic) on the flanks.

They proved that wing play is both important and exciting as they outclassed and outpaced the Israeli defence.

If Jock keeps up the good work there's no doubt they'll qualify for Spain and it might even persuade a few league managers to experiment with wingers again.

Ian McKay, Ayr, Scotland.

Right: Wingers are back for Scotland as Nottingham Forest's John Robertson proved against Israel.



Hail Hackett!

SHEFFIELD referee Keith Hackett was the only winner of the first FA Cup game at Wembley.

He deserves much praise for keeping the game flowing and making it interesting.

In five years as a ref Keith has risen to become one of our top officials and one of the most respected in the game.

He's a fine example for other refs to follow.

Gary Wildsmith, Sheffield, Yorks.

WELSH WIZARDS

WELSH football is on the way up! Swansea, who applied for re-election in 1975, are now in the First Division for the first time in their history.

Newport County from the Third Division showed they can compete with the best by reaching the quarter finals of the European Cup-Winners Cup.

The upsurge is reflected in the tremendous performances of the national team under manager Mike England.

Andrew Fletcher (12), Pontypool, Gwent.

Let's have a Euro league

MAKE the European Cup more exciting by running it along the lines of a league.

It would be much more fun. The club with the highest points tally at the end of the season would win the coveted trophy.

I think it would be much fairer as well because champions of Europe means the best team in Europe — not the one that had the luck of the draw.

David Burnett, Leek, Staffs.

Sent off! £5

Hammers under fire

I'M OUTRAGED at the way everyone is heaping praise on Second Division champions West Ham.

I can't see why Ron Greenwood keeps picking Trevor Brooking for England because I reckon he can't kick his way out of a paper bag.

As for goalkeeper Phil Parkes — he couldn't stop a double decker bus!

My granny can play better than Billy Bonds. In fact, the only player I rate at Upton Park is David Cross.

West Ham should be in the Fourth Division. Ibrahim Benjelloun, Welwyn Garden City, Herts.

● You're granny must be one heck of a player.

If you dare to outrage me I'll send you off! Don't forget I pay £5 for a sending off and £2 to each reader I book. Write to: Outraged, Match Weekly, Midgate House, Midgate, Peterborough.

OUTRAGED!

Sad for Preston

I'M outraged by the way Cardiff relegated my favourite team, Preston, to the Third Division.

Cardiff's last two games were at home and they made no effort to win them. They set their stalls out for 0-0 draws and that's exactly what they got in both matches.

On the other hand Preston went to Derby for their last game and put up an heroic performance to win 2-1.

Cardiff have once again missed the drop. Nevermind, we'll take their place next season.

Stephen Cletheroe (15), Ramsey, Isle of Man

● At this stage of the season it's the survival of the fittest. It's tough to go down on goal difference but you can't blame the Welsh club for Preston's relegation.

Booked! £2

HILAIRE SHOULD STAY

I'M outraged that Vince Hilaire wants to leave Crystal Palace.

If he goes, the Selhurst Park club will be in a terrible mess after losing players of the calibre of Gerry Francis and Mike Flanagan.

I can't see any future for Palace as long as Dario Gradi is in charge — he doesn't seem to have the confidence of the players.

I noted that Wimbledon enjoyed a revival in the Fourth Division when he left!

Grant Hutchings, Addiscombe, Croydon, Surrey.

● A player of Vince's calibre deserves First Division football and with the confusing developments at Palace last season you can't blame him for wanting to leave the club.

Swop Shop

OFFER: Size 30/32 Man City shirt.

WANTS: Any Man City programmes from last season.

Nicholas Sullivan, 57 Stafford Road, Newport, Gwent.

OFFER: Wolves v Spurs FA Cup semi-final programme (Hillsborough game).

WANTS: Wolves v PSV Eindhoven programme.

Ivan Todd, 322 Leicester Road, Wigston Fields, Leicestershire.

OFFER: Subbuteo Soccer Plotter.

WANTS: Anything to do with Arsenal except programmes.

Graham Lee, 17 Westfield Avenue, Tewkesbury, Gloucs.

OFFER: Two soccer annuals and magazines.

WANTS: The first 15 issues of Match Weekly.

F. Gafoor, 1 Bell Vue Terrace, Bury, Lancs.

OFFER: Man Utd v Benfica European Cup Final LP.

WANTS: 30 Leeds or England programmes.

Nigel Vann, 44 Wolsey Way, Syston, Leics.

OFFER: 11 West Ham programmes plus Orient v West Ham souvenir (FA Cup 1980).

WANTS: Same amount of Sunderland homes and away — not 1980-81 season.

Graeme Morrison, 5 Fairlands East, Fulwell, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear.

OFFER: Five Newcastle programmes from 1976-77 (inc. v Sunderland).

WANTS: Newcastle v Brighton, 1978-79 programme.

Paul Oxley, 79 Rushams Road, Horsham, Sussex.

WRITE to Swop Shop, Match Weekly, Midgate House, Midgate, Peterborough, with your swops and to each other to complete your deals (no cash offers).

NOTTS COUNTY — the oldest club in the English League — are back in the First Division after an absence of 55 years.

County, original members of the League back in 1888, have enjoyed three periods in the top flight but the last was in season 1925-26.

That year saw them relegated to Division Two — a drop from which they never recovered.

Until now that is . . .

Reporter **ANTHONY HAWKSWELL** has been talking to County's long-serving Ray O'Brien.

NOTTS County are set to rise out of the shadow of their illustrious neighbours Nottingham Forest.

Since their glorious return to the First Division in 1977 Forest have hogged all the headlines and made the short distance between the two clubs seem more like a million miles.

But next season County, the oldest club in the Football League, will be back in the First Division and competing on equal terms with their star-studded city rivals.

"It's great to be up there in the top flight with them," says their Eire international left back Ray O'Brien.

"Forest have always attracted the big crowds because they've been more

NOTTS COUNTY'S REALLY BUZZING, SAYS RAY O'BRIEN, N

BACK in the BIG TIME

successful but now we've got a chance to show what we can do."

County are gearing themselves for their return to the top by modernising their Meadow Lane Ground. Their promotion has

also caught the imagination of the fans.

Says Ray: "The club's really buzzing. Season ticket sales have soared and all of a sudden everyone wants to know us — the fans must be coming out of the cupboards!"

Ray, who joined County for £45,000 from Manchester United eight years ago, added: "The club used to give the impression that it didn't want success, but that's beginning to change.

"I'm really looking forward to the prospect of playing in the top flight. I've played all my career in the Second Division and this is just the fresh challenge I need."

The game Ray's most looking forward to is when County travel to Old Trafford for the League game with his old club.

"I never played in the first team there and it would be great to go back and turn in a good performance against them."

County's League record since they made it back to Division Two in 1973.

Season	Highest position reached	Final position	Top League scorer
1973-74	2nd (Oct. 20)	10th	Randall (12)
1974-75	5th (Aug. 24)	14th	Scanlon (14)
1975-76	1st (Sep. 23)	7th	Bradd (16)
1976-77	3rd (Apr. 23)	8th	Bradd (12)
1977-78	13th (Apr. 25)	15th	Vinter (18)
1978-79	5th (Dec. 19)	6th	Vinter (12)
1979-80	1st (Sep. 1)	17th	O'Brien (10)
1980-81	1st Nov. 8)	2nd	Christie (19)

Left: Ian McCulloch will do well in the First Division says his Notts County team-mate Ray O'Brien.



OW THAT WE ARE . . .

NOTTS COUNTY FOOTBALL LEAGUE RECORD

1888 — Original member of the League.
1893-97: Division Two.
1898-1913: Division One.
1913-14: Division Two.
1914-20: Division One.
1920-23: Division Two.
1923-26: Division One.
1926-30: Division Two.
1930-31: Division Three (South).
1931-35: Division Two.
1935-50: Division Three (South).
1950-58: Division Two.
1958-59: Division Three.
1959-60: Division Four.
1960-64: Division Three.
1964-71: Division Four.
1971-73: Division Three.
1973-81: Division Two.
1981: Division One.

Right: Former Man. Utd. defender Ray O'Brien . . . he can't wait to meet his old team in the First Division next season.



Pedro sweeps in style

MANAGER Jimmy Sirrell's decision to switch the talented Pedro Richards from full-back to sweeper put Notts County on the road back to the First Division.

That's the view of County's Ray O'Brien who says: "Pedro has added a new dimension to our play. He covers so much ground and sets up a lot of chances for us."

"He does the same sort of job as West Ham's Billy Bonds. Pedro's distribution is great and he's so quick," added Ray.

The man who's been banging in the chances is former Leicester striker Trevor Christie who netted 19 times last season.

"Trevor and winger Ian McCulloch formed a good partnership last season. Ian had a great season and I reckon he'll do well in the First Division."

"He doesn't score as many goals as he should, but he's got tremendous pace and the ability

to take on players and beat them."

County face a tough time in the First Division next season and Ray knows that Jimmy Sirrell may have to buy new players if they are to survive in the top flight.

"Only skipper Don Masson has played in the First Division so there's obviously a need for a couple of experienced players," added Ray.

"We must settle down to life at the top quickly. We don't want to do a Leicester — they learned about it too late and paid the penalty," added Ray.

Right: Notts County's Pedro Richards — his move from full-back to sweeper played an important part in the club's promotion to the First Division.



NEXT WEEK

EUROPEAN CUP FINAL

'Match' Action from Liverpool v Real Madrid in Paris.

★★★★★★

Spurs Superstar

GLENN HODDLE

writes for you

★★★★★★

RESULTS EXTRA

Complete guide to the season's matches, plus tables, top scorers and facts galore.

IN COLOUR

WEMBLEY WALLOP

Steve Mackenzie relieves his Cup Final cracker.

★★★★★★

Southampton's Northern Ireland Star
CHRIS NICHOLL
at home.

★★★★★★

STAR SURVEY

Top stoppers of The Third Division.

plus

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★★★★★★

WORLD CUP PREVIEW

Hungary v England

A to Z of soccer



ABOVE: R is for... two Midland stars Brian Roberts (Coventry) seen here challenging John Richards of Wolves.

- Scottish FA Cup winners **RANGERS**, who were helped to their 24th crown by a goal from midfield star Bobby **RUSSELL** in the 4-1 defeat of Dundee U. The Ibrox club have also won the championship 36 times.

- Those often-criticised officials, the **REFEREES**, who interpret the **RULES** of the game, not always to players' and fans' liking but with great dedication. Where would we be without them?

- Bobby **ROBSON**, mastermind of Ipswich Town's memorable season, Bryan **ROBSON**, England and West Brom's talented young star and 'Pop' **ROBSON** (Carlisle) approaching 250 league goals, the best scoring record of any current Football League player.
- Three key figures in Manchester City's amazing **REVIVAL**, Kevin **REEVES**, Nicky **REID** and Ray **RANSON**.

- **ROTHERHAM** United, champions of Division Three this season, and **ROCHDALE**, once proud runners-up in the Football League Cup, but in the past seven seasons have failed to finish better than 83rd in the League, twice having to apply for **RE-ELECTION**.

- Berkshire club **READING**, Division Four champions in 1979, and **RAITH ROVERS**, who narrowly missed promotion to the Scots Premier League this season.

R IS FOR...

- Michael **ROBINSON** and Andy **RITCHIE**, key players in Brighton's successful bid to avoid the dreaded **RELEGATION** from Division One.

- Notorious World Cup striker Paulo **ROSSI**, at the centre of the Italian betting scandal last season and after a year's ban hoping to turn over a new leaf having joined Juventus from Perugia.

- Ace goalscorers Cyrille **REGIS** (West Brom), Joe **ROYLE** (Norwich), John **RICHARDS** (Wolves), Tom **RITCHIE** (Sunderland), John **ROBERTSON** (Forest), plus of course World Cup marksmen of the calibre of **RIVELINO** (Brazil), **RUMMENIGGE** (W. Germany), and **REP** (Holland).

- The quickest sending-off case from the start of a Football League postwar match was that of Bruce **RIOCH**. He was dismissed three minutes after the kick-off when playing with Luton Town in a Third Division home game against Mansfield Town on September 18, 1968.
- Willie **REID** was the only man whose club won a national cup in his only season as a Football League manager. He left St Mirren

Did you know...

in December, 1961, to manage Norwich City, who won the Football League Cup in that season. At the end of it he returned to Scotland and never came back.

● Sir Alf **RAMSEY**, who later led England to the World Cup title, ranks as the only man who has managed Third, Second and First Division championship teams with the same club since the war. He did so with Ipswich Town in 1956-57, 1960-61, and 1961-62.